

# THE COMMONWEALTH

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READ IT FIRST IN THIS PAPER

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## CORRESPONDENCE

### LETTER FROM THE STATE CAPITAL

Raleigh, N. C. Aug. 8.—If there is any reliance at all to be placed in our old friend "Consensus of opinion," Candidate Hughes is a considerably weaker aspirant for White House honors than he was before delivering his speech of acceptance—including that wave of the hand to Teddy play as he began his laborious job of attempted destruction of, without a semblance of presenting something better for, the "Wilson policies," foreign and domestic.

I have talked with many men (of many minds on public affairs generally) and the great majority seem to be thoroughly agreed on the character of the political jurists performance and its effect upon the country—and the opinion is anything but complimentary or encouraging to Hughes and his party. The impression left on many who expected something better (without any valid reason for expecting it, as far as they can analyze their thoughts at this time) is that the speech smacks more strongly of a badly old scold, bent on injuring his opponent regardless, than that of a full size aspirant for presidential honors laying claim to ability as a constructive statesman. Sic transit gloria et seq.

#### Polling the Vote by Precincts

State Chairman Warren expresses the hope that the Democratic county chairman in every county in the State will be especially zealous and jealous in attending to their business during the next three months—zealous in organizing and polling the full strength of the party in every county, and jealous of each other in the sense of not allowing one's self to be outdone in the exercise of vigilance and effective party work.

There has been more or less carelessness among some of the local party managers, precinct chairmen especially being "off the job" in some important respects. Chairman Warren regards this as a too risky, not to say dangerous state of affairs, especially in a presidential election year, when the enemy is most active.

One of the most important steps which Mr. Warren will impress upon the county chairmen, and which he unalterably insist upon, is the work of properly polling the voters of each precinct, by precincts, in every county in North Carolina. "Get the precincts right and the county will be right and with the county and precinct organizations properly looked after and closely guarded, the State can't go wrong," declared the chairman.

"We will begin at the bottom and build up," he added, "instead of starting at the top. I think it much more the effective method. Of course we have nominally safe majority of the voters in the Democratic party in North Carolina. But our people must realize that the strength of the party vote must be cast at the polls to insure continued good government and prevent the enemy from capturing the State and national governments."

#### Candidate Linney Has No Ambition

Unless the Republican candidate for governor can secure some more truthful and effective arguments to adorn his linguistic performances on the "stump" than those which he has been attempting to manufacture political capital out of so far, he might as well throw himself into the discard without further ado.

If he expects the taxpayers of the State as a whole to condemn our State Corporation Commission for the splendid work they are doing to make taxation more uniform and just to all classes alike in each and every county, including the equalization of land values in the scope of their work, he is badly off his base. As a matter of fact, we are especially proud of our State Corporation Commission, its personnel and its splendid work, and this writer has never thought it needed to make excuses for anything Mr. Linney "charges" it with having done.

The "bancombe" which the gentleman from Waukegan has expounded upon his several audiences so far, concerning the books and acts of the State Treasurer and a pair of "experts" who were employed to audit and investigate both, is a genuine mare's nest, several years of age, which intelligent people have long since

dismissed as bogus ancient history. These are the things, along with some other expressions of disgust, which well posted men who visit Raleigh are saying about Mr. Linney whose promise to "shell the woods" had led them to expect something worth while from him and his party associates.

Mr. Linney is not doing himself any credit by continuing to feature the report of the State Board of Internal Improvements in which was made of the State Treasury Department, based upon information given by New York auditors that has been conclusively shown to be inaccurate and misleading. It has been clearly shown that there were no such balances of cash carried in banks as these auditors reported, or, in other words, that these auditors discredited themselves instead of the State Treasurer by the incorrect conclusions reached by them. Mr. Lacy carries accounts with banks convenient to every state institution in the State. He forwards a remittance to each of these banks to cover expenses they will take up for the following month. The bank in which such deposit is made pays out the money as expense checks are presented and sends them into the Treasurer at the end of the month. All the time the Treasurer's books show as balance on hand in such bank the amount of his original deposit, until the cancelled vouchers are finally sent in. By the simple process of overlooking this custom these auditors founded a criticism against the Treasurer which had no actual basis in fact, and which Mr. Linney thoroughly understands. He need not expect to make any headway in building "a strong Republican party" in this State upon such unfounded criticism, based upon the aforesaid "mare's nest."

#### Current Matters of Importance

The State meeting, or institute, of North Carolina electrical inspectors and contractors is in session here this week, beginning today, and the delegates are handling important subjects. One of these is a remedy trouble growing out of the wiring buildings. Insurance Commissioner Young is taking an active interest in the proceedings. Mr. Young says the loss of life and property from electrical installation is too great, and must be stopped. Faulty work by incompetent or careless operators has been responsible for much of it, and it is proposed to stop that risk entirely for the future by confining such work to entirely competent workmen duly licensed for the purpose.

The Democratic State executive committee meets here this evening in special session. The principal business before it is the naming of an elector-at-large to take the place of J. O. Carr appointed U. S. District Attorney, and provide for the nominating primary in the third judicial district.

Gen. J. S. Carr and Mr. M. L. Shipman are in the "flood districts" of western North Carolina for the proper distribution of relief for the sufferers.

Chief Justice Walter Clark is suggested as one of the three U. S. peace commissioners to negotiate with the Mexican government.

Raleigh's chances for securing one of the farm land banks, under the new law, are considered to be very good at this writing.

#### HUGHES IS OFF ON A 10,000-MILE SPEAKFEST

New York, Aug. 5.—Charles Evans Hughes, Republican candidate left New York with his wife this afternoon on a 10,000 mile stamping tour that will take them from coast to coast.

Mr. and Mrs. Hughes left Bridgehampton, L. I., in the afternoon and arrived in New York for dinner.

Lawrence Green the candidates private secretary half a dozen other attaches and a corps of newspaper men made up the party that left on the New York Central at 9:35 o'clock tonight.

Dr. Howard Dittman, a throat specialist, is in the party. He will look after the candidates physical welfare en-route.

#### CAPT BARR ON AGAIN.

The many friends of Captain Barr, the popular conductor of the Weldon-Kinston branch will be glad to learn that he has recovered from his recent illness and is again on the run. The captain spent some months in a hospital in Richmond. His home is at Weldon.

## FOUR MEN HURT WHEN SCAFFOLD COLLAPSED

A serious accident happened this afternoon at Tillery when the scaffolding on which four men were working collapsed, precipitating the workmen to the ground.

A force of workmen under Mr. Will Madry of Scotland Neck were engaged in tearing the old tin roof off the old mill of Mr. Gregory, when the scaffold on which they stood suddenly gave way. Mr. Madry himself had just gotten off the scaffold.

Mr. John Adkins received a sprained back and a dislocated arm. Squire Drew, colored, received minor injuries and bruises. Len Alexander, colored, received a broken arm and other injuries. Lewis Pender, colored, received minor injuries about the chest.

All the injured men were put aboard the train and brought here for medical attention.

## WORLD IS HAVING ITS LAST FLING SHE SAYS

Priestess Predicts That War and Destruction Will Visit the United States.

Chicago, Aug. 5.—This little old world, with its cabarets, its lobster salad and its georgette waists and silk stockings, its vice districts, and its corrupt politicians, is merely having its last fling. It is to emerge along about December 31, 1999, into a perfectly nice, peaceful world in which the mean-spirited, the selfish and the greedy individual will have gone to their reward.

And what a century this is to be! War, calamity, destruction, desolation, with America leading the world in obituary notices. At the end there will be 440,000 angel marked individuals inhabiting the earth. There will be others, but without a spiritual understanding, and they won't count greatly. It is unlikely that these United States will have any representatives among the 440,000 elect.

Thus runs the prophecy of the Countess Aurelia Bethlen, a native of Hungary. Countess Bethlen is in Chicago as the guest of Mrs. Nicholas Andre, 424 East Forty Second street. She is a priestess of the Bahai religion and in her younger days was a cyclist and horsewoman of note. She traces her family back to 14 B. C., but she has relinquished her castle, sold her jewels, given away her wealth and is preaching and teaching the Bahai beliefs.

"The greatest destruction is to come to America," says Countess Bethlen. "That is because America is the greediest nation on earth. It worships gold; not God. Every nation of the earth is to attack America. It may be the Germans who start. The Asiatics will come in. England will want a slice of country. She will follow. Every country will want a slice. America will try to protect herself against all the dogs that come."

"The more calamity that comes the more glory. I pray for it. For it is only through great calamity that great unity and love can come. I love my American brothers and sisters, and I would give my life for them. But who among them would do as much for me?"

"When I see men and women do wrong I say, 'Go to it. It will soon be over. The cabarets will not last there will be none in the next century. There will be no capital punishment. The grafters and corrupt politicians will be done away with. Vice is only to last to the end of the 20th century."

"I was praying one day, and I saw in my prayer Italy rise against Austria. I did not understand it, but on Sunday I had a vision. God said to me, 'Italy is only a storm. It will pass over.' I jumped out of bed and wrote that down. Then I took my pencil and went back to bed. I went to sleep, and the vision returned. I saw before me the great war in Europe. I saw England annihilated. The German emperor stood there with his soldiers and the earth swallowed up his armies. I looked again, and the emperor stood there alone.

"I said, 'Do you want your dinner?' He said, 'Yes,' and then he was swallowed up. But remember that England will go first. Then I saw the tremendous war in America, greater, far greater, than the war in Europe, and the American men were fighting almost naked. The nakedness signified that the shortcomings of Americans are to be showed up.

"God is purifying the earth, and His kingdom is to be established. There will be an angel of destruction at the four corners of the earth to wipe out the mean, and the selfish, and with the wicked.

"I want to be an example of simplicity. I dress in plain black. There are no frills. And because I dress so simple I am stared at. Because I have not attractive furs. Because my legs and shoes are not on exhibition, women stop and look at me on the street, from

their windows and in the stores. I give them a smile. It is not the dress. It is the soul. And yet our shopgirls sell their souls to dress in showy shoes and gorgeously colored rags."

## INFANTILE PARALYSIS NOT CAUSED BY UNCLEANLINESS

Mr. Emerson Says Lack of Clean Surroundings Has no Relation to it. New York, Aug. 5.—There is no relation between lack of clean surroundings and infantile paralysis, according to a statement issued today by Health Commissioner Emerson, who said that investigation made, up to the present, had not established that rubbish and refuse were carriers of the disease. He told also of instances in which the disease had invaded districts which were "immaculately" clean, whereas neighboring communities not so well kept were free of the malady.

"People cannot be too careful, however, in personal and neighborhood cleanliness," he said.

The health department today began to make plans for a house-to-house canvass of the greater part of the city, which was recommended yesterday by the pathologists and bacteriologists who conducted a survey of the epidemic stricken district.

## REPUBLICAN HOOD LANDS ADDITIONAL SERVICE

Washington, D. C., Aug. 5.—As a result of the persistent efforts of Congressman Hood, the post office department has established additional mail service by boat between Atlantic and Beaufort, North Carolina, the boat to leave Beaufort on the arrival of the 11:10 o'clock Norfolk Southern train. The contract has been awarded to Mr. Alvin Mason, of Atlantic.

The additional service will enable the people of Atlantic and other points between Atlantic and Beaufort to get their daily papers promptly and other mail that will reach Beaufort upon the arrival of this train. Heretofore the mail which reached Beaufort on this train was delayed nearly 24 hours.

## SUICIDE AT GREENVILLE

Lee Shelburn, Well-Known Young Man of that City Takes Own Life.

Greenville, N. C., Aug. 5.—The city was shocked to learn yesterday morning that Mr. Lee Shelburn, son of Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Shelburn had died by a pistol shot from his own hand. No cause can be assigned for the rash act and only a few hours before he committed the deed, he had answered to some remark by a friend that he was not ready to leave here yet. He used a pistol and the ball entered the right temple and came out at the left temple, going entirely through his head. Death must have been instantaneous. Lee was a very popular boy and active with the young people. He was about 23 years old. He is survived by his father, mother and two sisters. The blow falls heavily upon his family, following so soon the death of his brother less than a year ago.

## LYNCHING THREATENED

Heavily Armed Guard Posted in Tulsa, Okla., Jail.

Tulsa, Okla., Aug. 5.—Deputy sheriffs heavily armed were posted in the county jail here tonight to prevent a possible attempt to lynch Cecil Towery, a negro, held in connection with the murder yesterday of Charles Vaughn, wealthy oil operator. It was reported that oil workers were coming here in automobiles with the intention of hanging the negro.

## A CHIVALROUS JUDGE.

"One of our judges, famed for his chivalry and uncompromising loyalty to the traditions of procedure, was trying a case in which one of the witnesses happened to be a local actress of unusual popularity," said Colonel Riker, of Harrodsburg, Ky. "Her evidence was such that the usual question as to her age was not likely to be omitted, so when she came to the stand his honor instructed the court clerk to suspend action for a moment, then he addressed the lady.

"Madam how old are you?" "Twenty-five," promptly returned the witness, who was plainly 35 or over.

"Very well," said the judge, politely. "I asked you that question because, if I hadn't it would surely have been asked you when the attorney for the defense cross-examined you. And, now that you have told your age, do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth?" "Everybody's Magazine.

## DID THE BEST SHE COULD

Alice (in surprise)—You don't mean to say Edith Bate married a millionaire old enough to be her father? Why did she do such a thing? Marie—Why, she couldn't catch one old enough to be her grandfather.—Boston Transcript.

Some men who give with one hand advertise it with the other.

## BIDS NOW BEING RECEIVED BY THE COMMITTEEMEN

Messrs. T. B. Wheeler, J. E. Bowers and H. T. Clark, comprising the committee named to contract and otherwise install the waterworks and sewer system for Scotland Neck, have had advertised in the Manufacturers' Record, Baltimore, Md., the following, which explains itself:

"Bids close August 15, 1916. Material for Water-Works System. Scotland Neck, N. C.

"Sealed proposals will be received by the Town of Scotland Neck, N. C., at the office of the City Clerk for furnishing all machinery and material for water-works system until 2 P. M. August 15, 1916, at which time they will be opened and read publicly.

"The approximate quantities are as follows:

"2 750 G. P. M. Underwriters' steam pump.  
"1 100 G. P. M., motor-driven triplex pump.  
"1 75,000-gallon tank on 75 foot tower.

"40 tons 2 1/2 inch concrete stone.  
"220 tons 1 inch concrete stone.  
"460 barrels cement.  
"23,000 pounds reinforcing steel.

"3,024 feet 8 inch class "B" cast-iron pipe.  
"22,080 feet 6 inch class "B" cast-iron pipe.

"10 tons cast-iron specials.  
"9,950 feet 1 1/2 inch galvanized-iron pipe and fittings.  
"52 fire hydrants.  
"7 8 inch H. E. gate valves and boxes.

"26 6 inch H. E. gate valves and boxes.  
"25 1 1/2 inch screw gate valves and boxes.

"25,000 pounds pig lead.  
"900 pounds water main jute.  
"Each bid must be accompanied by a certified check for 5 per cent of the amount bid, drawn to the order of H. T. Clark, Committeeman.

"Specifications may be obtained from the Engineers at Atlanta, Ga.  
"The right is reserved to reject any and all bids.

"T. B. WHEELER,  
"H. T. CLARK,  
"J. E. BOWERS, Committee.

"The J. B. McCrary Co., Engineers, Atlanta, Ga."

It is understood that bonds will be advertised and sold some time during the latter part of September, after which it will be only a short time until actual work will begin.

"ONLY ONE FAITH.  
"Can you accommodate myself and family for summer board?"  
"What's your politics?" inquired Farmer Courtosel.

"Does that make any difference?"  
"Yep. I'm not going to take another chance on havin' the whole place stirred up with arguments day an' night. All the folks that board here this summer has got to have the same politics."—Pittsburg Telegraph.

A SIMPLE MATTER.  
Mr. John M. Parker of New Orleans, it appears, has been reduced to the embarrassing expedient of issuing a call for the organization of a political party to support him for vice president.—Seattle Post Intelligencer.

AN EXPERT INDEED.  
A strange man had been sent to polish the floors. His manner was anything but energetic, and the lady feared that he would not polish them properly.

"Are you quite sure that you understand the work?" she inquired.  
His indignation was tremendous.  
"You know Col. B.'s folks, next door?" he said. Well, I refer you to them. On the polished floor of their dining room five persons broke their legs last winter and a lady slipped clear down the grand staircase. I polished all their floors!" —Pittsburg Chronicle-Telegraph.

NEARER THE MARK.  
The minister of a Scottish village being away on a holiday, a young deputy took over his duties.

During his long journey north he had caught a cold, and arrived at the village in late on Saturday night with a huskiness which threatened to spoil his preaching powers next morning.

After being shown to his room he suddenly decided to have a glass of hot lemonade, and rang the bell, which sounded rather undecidedly. When the servant appeared he remarked pleasantly:

"That bell seems to be like myself—a bit hoarse."  
"Ay," replied the girl, calmly, "it's cracked."—Exchange.

Open the door to a little vice and a big one will crawl in at the window.

And many a man's belief in his superior wisdom makes a fool of him.

## REMARKABLE RIDE BY COSSACK TROOP.

In Effecting Junction With British Rode 187 Miles in Seven Days

Petrograd, August 5.—The remarkable ride by a squadron of Cossacks who succeeded in effecting a junction between the Russian troops in the neighborhood of Kermanshah and the British on the Tigris, as has previously been mentioned in these dispatches, was made at the rate of 24 miles a day, for seven and a half days, over 180 miles of extremely mountainous region which made the achievement an exceptional one.

The Squadron—or sotnia—consisted of five officers, 110 men and 125-horses, and left Mahidash, 20 miles southwest of Kermanshah, on the evening of May 2, and arrived at Ald Charbi on the Tigris on the 18th, there having been in addition to the actual riding time, a two and a half days halt.

The track was frequently difficult even for track transport, and a number of rugged passes—some of them more than 8,000 feet high—had to be negotiated; enemy forces were likely to be met with at any moment and the entire country traversed was infested with warlike tribes whose attitude at best was decidedly doubtful. Nevertheless no actual opposition was encountered though stray shots at long range did occur, and on one occasion the sotnia entered a village just half an hour after a superior hostile force had left it. This force is said to have numbered about 150 mounted tribesmen accompanied by German officers.

Three days' rations were carried to start with, and when these were consumed the troops lived entirely on the country purchasing barley, flour, rice and sheep from the villagers. No sickness occurred among the men, but two horses fell over precipices and five others died of exhaustion, or of thirst during the last 25 miles of desert between the foothills and the river Tigris.

Throughout the whole enterprise mobility played a role of paramount importance, and the high degree of this quality displayed by the Cossack on this and other occasions may be ascribed to a variety of causes. He is a hardy man who has spent his life roaming about the steppe on horseback. This has taught him to rough it, to look after himself and to become an expert forager. He habitually eats little and is accustomed to long marches on short commons.

On his person he has his rifle, his saddle his waterbottle, his haversack and 60 rounds of ammunition. His great coat, waterproof sheet and horse blanket are carried rolled behind the saddle while the food for his mount is contained in a pair of wallets that will take 15 pounds of grain. The remainder of his outfit consists of 240 rounds of ammunition, four horse shoes, one day's bread, three days' groceries, one pound of bully beef, a shirt, a pair of drawers a curry-comb and a brush, all of which go into two saddle bags attached behind the stirrup-leathers.

He rides with a straight leg on a narrow saddle much lighter than ordinary. On arrival at Ali Charbi the Cossacks were warmly welcomed by the British troops and made as comfortable as the exigencies of war permitted and it is noteworthy that though they reached camp after nightfall, the Cossacks dispersed themselves with song and dance until 1 a. m., before seeking their rest.

After a couple of days' respite from their long journey, the commander of the squadron and two of his officers were invited to Basrah to meet Sir Percy Lake, commanding the army in Mesopotamia. During their stay at Basrah the officers were decorated with the British Military order of King George.

No, Cordelia, a bee is not necessarily as angry when it stings as the victim is.

MILLIONS FOR FINDING CURE

John D. Rockefeller Backs The Infantile Paralysis Work With His Wealth

New York, Aug. 6.—Backed by the millions of John D. Rockefeller, Dr. Hideyo Nouguchi the "strategist of bacteriology" has set out to find a cure for infantile paralysis.

The disease today killed and attacked more than 200 more babies, bringing the total of deaths to 1,068 out of 4,812 reported cases. Deputy Health Commissioner Billings said the city could expect 10,000 cases before the epidemic is controlled.

Dr. Nouguchi and the country's leading pathologists and bacteriologists are working day and night to evolve a specific. Scientists place their greatest hopes in the Japanese, whose brilliant laboratory conquests in the fifteen years of his association with Dr. Simon Flexner have been notable.

Dr. Nouguchi is spending practically all of his working hours in his laboratory at the Rockefeller Institute.

It is said the institute received a shipment of monkeys from South Africa this week. These are being used by Nouguchi and his assistants.

REAL LUXURY.

While Alec was playing on the heath rug with his toys, father and mother sat thoughtfully discussing the increased cost of living. The small boy took it all in, although they did not know.

A week or so later his father called to him.

"Look here, Alec!" he said proudly, "isn't this a lovely little sister that mother has given you?"

"Alec looked at the infant but said nothing.

"Don't you like her?" asked father.

"Oh, I suppose she's alright," said the small boy, disappointed; but there were lots of things we wanted more!" —Exchange.

## ALLIES CONTINUE TO PUNISH THE GERMAN LINES

The Germans have suffered further losses at the hands of the French between the Hem wood and the river Somme, losing there a line of their trenches and 120 prisoners and 10 machine guns. In the Verdun sector the French also made progress south of the Thimoutot work, capturing five machine guns and taking some houses in the western part of the village of Fleury.

After a heavy bombardment of the British positions, the Germans launched violent infantry attacks north and northeast of Poziers, and at two places succeeded in entering British trenches. Their success was not long lived, for the British soon drove them out, inflicting heavy casualties.

Amid continuous heavy rains which turned the country into a quagmire, the Russians are keeping up their strong offensive against the Teutonic allies in northern Galicia and have pushed further forward their lines against them in the Sereth and Graberka rivers region.

Also along the Stokhod river, in Volhynia, near the town of Zareze, the Russians have driven the Teutons from their trenches and occupied them, taking officers and 200 men prisoners and capturing one machine gun in the operation. In the Carpathians the Germans report the capture of two peaks from the Russians.

Constantinople reports a series of gains for the Turks fighting against the Russians, and Petrograd admits at least one of the claims—that the Russians have been forced to retire under pressure to the region east of Kermanshah, Persia. An attack by the Russians north of Bukan, on the Persian front was put down with heavy losses to the Russians according to Constantinople and in Turkish Armenia near Bitlis and Mush the Russians have been put to flight and the Turks have taken from them positions the Russians had previously captured.

The latest reports concerning the attack of Turks against the British forces with the Suez canal their objective indicates that the Ottoman forces met with a reverse even more serious than was first chronicled. Driven back 18 miles into the desert, fighting rear guard actions, they suffered heavy casualties and of their total force of 14,000 lost 45 officers and 3,000 men made prisoners. They now have been entirely cleared from the aKtia-Umashi basin.

Violent fighting is in progress between the Austrians and Italians on various sectors, especially around the Gorizia bridgehead on the Doberdo plateau, and on the lower Isonzo river. Near Monte San Michele the Italians captured advanced Austrian positions, but Vienna says the greater portion of these were retaken by the Austrians. On the lower Isonzo, Rome reports the capture by the Italians of hill 85, which was held against violent counterattacks.

## BEAUFORT CASHIER RESIGNS FROM BANK

Discrepancy in Accounts, Possibly Caused by Loans on Insufficient Security.

New Bern, Aug. 7.—T. A. Uzzell, president of the Bank of Beaufort, at Beaufort, today gave out a statement to the effect that Thomas Thomas, cashier of the institution, had resigned and that there was a discrepancy in his accounts but that the amount was not known.

President Uzzell stated that the amount of Mr. Thomas' bond was several times in excess of the amount he was short.

Mr. Thomas is one of Beaufort's most prominent citizens and is the Democratic nominee for county treasurer.

It is rumored that the shortage was caused by loans on inadequate security.

Mr. Uzzell is now in charge of the institution and will remain until a new cashier is secured.

NO DIFFERENCE.

"You have never been in New York before have you?"

"No. But I've been held up twice in Arizona."—Exchange.